



# NEW PORTLANDER

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DOUG KERR PHOTO

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Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at [newportlandmaine.org](http://newportlandmaine.org)

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## TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

**Office Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday..... 10am - 5pm  
Thursday..... 12pm - 6pm

**Town Manager/CEO:** Stacie Rundlett

Email..... [newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com)

**Deputy Town Manager:** Lori Alyea

Email..... [townofnewportland@gmail.com](mailto:townofnewportland@gmail.com)

Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

**Town Clerk:** Jacob Pinkham / **Deputy Town Clerk:** Brittany Rundlett

Email..... [newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com)

Office hours: By appointment

**LPI:** Dan Gilbert - 207-938-3866

**Assessor's Agent:** Audra Swanson

Wednesday..... 10am - 2pm

Email..... [newportlandassessor@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandassessor@gmail.com)

**Fire Department:** Chief Kip Poulin

**Animal Control Officer:** Ryan Mulherin - 340-8137

## Town Manager

**Reminder:** The Town Office will not be open on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day.

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

## Selectmen

### Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting for June 17, 2024

Roster/ Selectmen: Raymond Poulin; Janet White; David Veilleux; Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager; David Cary; Garrett Oswald; Lynne Pieren; Jane Shattuck; Andrea Reichert; Brittany Rundlett (and Amelia), Jacob Pinkham, Brian Rundlett.

1. Janet called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Ray motioned to accept the minutes as written, David seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: a.) Stacie updated the Board about the new town digital sign. b.) There was a brief discussion on the three picnic tables built by David and Zach Cary and Wayne Rundlett. Two are at the Wire Bridge area and one is at the playground area at the fire station. The Board thanked the men for their time and complimented them on their work. c.) There was a brief discussion regarding Gilman Pond Road maintenance, near Jane Shattuck's property. David motioned to open Gilman Pond Road approximately 250 feet from current end of the road for summer road maintenance. Raymond seconded and Janet abstained. David motioned to open Gilman Pond Road approximately 250 feet from the current end of the road for winter maintenance with the understanding the current land owners who abut the road will grant the Town of New Portland an easement to put a turn around for town of New Portland's equipment and/or equipment employed by the town of New Portland access; Raymond seconded and Janet abstained. Both motions passed.
4. Items by the Public: Andrea Reichert asked questions about voting day and why a couple of the ballot clerks were not notified until the evening before that they were not needed on voting day. The Town Clerk, Jacob Pinkham, spoke about how and why this happened and clarified it was his error in communication, and he would make sure that this didn't happen again.

## Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**  
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month .....6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**  
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month .....6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
2nd Saturday of the month ..... 9am
- **Planning Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of the month.....6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**  
2nd Wednesday of each month.....6:30pm
- **School Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of each month ..... 6pm
- **New Portland Community Library**  
Tuesday.....8am - 12pm  
Wednesday and Thursday .....3pm - 6pm  
Saturday.....8am - 12pm
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station**  
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday..... 7:30am - 4:30pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**  
Monday - Friday..... 7am - 9am, 2pm - 4pm  
Saturday.....7am - 10:30am

5. Department Heads: a.) Janet motioned to pay for the picnic tables out of recreation funds; Raymond seconded and all were in favor. b.) Janet updated the other board members on the conversation she had with the Road Commissioner Ron Nunes, who was unable to attend. No decisions were made.
6. Items by the Town Manager: The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/C warrants.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: a.) The Board opened and reviewed the winter sand bids. The bids were as follows: 1. Jordan Excavation - \$15.85 per yard = 36,455; 2. Cousineaus -\$19.76 per yard = 45,450. Janet motioned to accept Jordan Excavation's bid; Ray seconded and all were in favor. Stacie will call Jordon Excavation to notify them. b.) Raymond motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Personnel Matters at 7:04 pm. Raymond motioned to enter back into the public meeting at 7:22 pm.

David spoke to Andrea Reichert that there was a discussion regarding the ballot clerks and moving forward there will be better communications with all parties involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board at the July 15 meeting. smr*

### Selectman's Notes:

Wow! August already how the summer months are flying by. Be careful in the sun and heat, but enjoy our beautiful state. Check on your neighbors and be kind.

The Town Meeting we wanted to have this month has been postponed to a later date. We are still waiting to meet with the State Bridge Inspector to find out what we can and can not do with the Tannery Bridge. Remember the bridge is closed to all traffic.

We are also postponing the clean up day at the Wire Bridge until spring. The warm summer has produced a very healthy crop of poison ivy around the backstop. For health reasons we will try for early spring.

We will be committing taxes very soon. That means property tax bills will be on their way. We will see an increase, both the County and SAD #74 budget went up. We, the selectmen will do our best to make the increase as small as possible.

Thank you for reading our notes.

*Submitted: Janet White, Ray Poulin, Dave Veilleux - Selectmen*

## Superintendent of Schools

July 16, 2024

Dear Residents of New Portland,

This month neither the full Board or any of the subcommittees meet so my report will be short.

As I spoke of this spring during our budget process, we had three major projects in the budget proposal. If you have been past the Solon Elementary School you likely noticed that the

parking lot area in front of the school has been completely replaced. The project included the removal of the remaining existing tar, a new sublayer of gravel compacted, with new surface rolled down. The project also included new curbing and a handicap accessibility point for the sidewalk. The bid also included lining parking spots and a zone for fire protection in front of the building which is scheduled to be done in the next two weeks to complete that project.. The second project in progress is the replacement of the tiles in the older section of CCS. I say older because the old brick portion of the Mark Emery building was renovated in the construction of the Community School. The tiles did not hold us as well on the older cement base. The third project is the replacement of the exterior lights at the high school. That is expected to begin a little later this month.

Besides the projects we have put out to bid, the maintenance personnel are doing some smaller projects. At Solon, the crew is giving the tower a face lift. In Anson, there is a beam in the entranceway that needs to be replaced. Currently, the crew is doing repairs to the HVAC system at the high school. It has been determined that some of the water leakage in the classrooms comes from holes in the system. So besides preventive maintenance, the crew is making repairs to lessen the likelihood of storm water damaging ceiling tiles.

We are beginning the bid process for securing a lease/loan for the bus that was also part of the 2024-2025 budget. Our hope is to complete the necessary paperwork and get final Board approval to allow us to take possession in time to get the necessary radio and cameras installed so that it is rolling on opening day. The new bus is a Thomas with a diesel engine and will be replacing a bus that has been costly to maintain over the past couple years. It isn't our oldest but still costs us more to keep running than a couple of the older ones.

The next meeting of the RSU #74 School Board Directors is scheduled for August 7 in the Carrabec Community School library. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [mcampbell@carrabec.org](mailto:mcampbell@carrabec.org) if you have any questions. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Mark L. Campbell, Superintendent*

## Kingfield Seniors Group

Apologies to any who wanted to come to our July potluck but was unaware of the day/time. On rare occasions, the New Portlander newsletter comes out after our scheduled meeting/potluck. We had our meeting with a celebration for the 4th of July barbecue. It was a nice turnout and there was a lot of chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs as well as salads and of course desserts!

Our next meeting/potluck will be on Monday, August 5. Our meetings are usually scheduled for the first Monday of the month (unless there is a holiday), All are welcome to come, eat and keep cool. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Nanci Mahlmann 207 628 4461. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann*

**NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is August 20 by 4:00 pm.**

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

**Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961 • phone 628-4201 • email: [alderswamp2@gmail.com](mailto:alderswamp2@gmail.com)**

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

## Lexington Highland Historical Society

I would like to invite you to join us at our History House Complex and Museum on September 21, 2024 at 11:00 am to 3:00 pm for a ceremony honoring Emmons and Barbara Pinkham's lifelong dream of making history come to life here in Lexington with a museum that offers all a chance to see what life was like here in this area. The museum is a depiction of a rural Maine farm house with furnishings, a barn, and a display of some of the farming and logging equipment that was used by our ancestors.

There will be a pig roast with home baked beans, salads, hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, drinks and dessert.

The History House complex and museum is located at the south junction of Long Falls Dam Road and Back Road (3 Back Road, Lexington Township); about four (4) miles north of the North New Portland village. If you would like to become a member of the Lexington Highland Historical Society (LHHS), you may pick-up a membership form at the museum at the time of your visit, and if you have questions or wish to donate to the LHHS, please call Jim Taylor at 628-2762.

*Submitted: Jim Taylor*

## New Portland Community Library

Greetings from the New Portland Community Library. I hope you have been finding ways to get relief from the summer heat. The past month has been an exciting time. It's been an absolute blast reconnecting and visiting with seasonal guests, keeping the conversation going with steadfast patrons, and meeting new faces each week. Thank you for stopping in to say, "Hi!"

Unfortunately, there is still no news on when the lending library will be available. As soon as we get the ok, let the lending commence! The good news is that it WILL be available and for that, we are thankful and wait patiently.

We are always seeking volunteers, and I will continue to encourage you to consider joining us if you have a little time to spare. There are many ways you can help. One way you can help is by staying connected with us on Facebook.

Periodically, we will post on Facebook a WISH LIST of books and basic needs of the library. If you can help through that avenue, we would be extremely grateful. We will be adding information each week to keep you posted.

The Carved-in-Stone Fundraiser is going on. Feel free to stop in and see the options we have available. In honor of Sheila Atwood who served as Library Director for almost ten years, we are collecting donations to construct a memorial bench. The bench will be placed outside the library for all to see and enjoy. Many have already donated! Thank you for your thoughtful donations!

Christmas in July? Not quite, but the NPCL is holding a calendar raffle in November! We will have many great items up for grabs, but we still need items donated to fill the 30 days. If you have something you would like to donate, give me a call at 207-628-6561. We can arrange a pickup if necessary!

Mark your calendars: Saturday, August 10 at 9:00 am is our monthly Board meeting. As always, you are welcome to attend. Wednesday, August 14 and 28 at 4:00 pm, Renee offers Armchair Meditation sessions. Meditation sessions are

held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Saturday, August 17 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm is our annual United Bikers of Maine Bake Sale. The sale will be held at the entrance to the New Portland Fairgrounds. We need the help of bakers, farmers, canners, and anyone enthusiastic about engaging with an exciting crowd. This sale is always a big hit, so please help us continue this trend by donating. Please bring baked goods and donations to the library by 10:00 am. Saturday, August 17 and August 31 from 9:00 am-11:30 am Reiki mini sessions with Michelle. She will be in the library offering free 15-minute sessions. Any donations given, Michelle generously gifts to the library. The date, time, and topic for August's computer class is TBD. Keep your eyes peeled for updates by staying connected through Facebook, checking out our bulletin board, or calling the library at 207-628-6561. We saved the most exciting for last! The Portland Sea Dogs are excited to announce the Sluggers Summer Reading Challenge brought to you by Aquaboggan. This challenge is designed to encourage kids in grades k-8 to develop and maintain their love of reading during the summer months. Participating is easy and rewarding! If a child participates and reads three books to completion, they will have earned a FREE ticket to a Sea Dogs game and a FREE ticket to Aquaboggan! The deadline to register is August 18! Register by scanning the QR code with the camera on your phone and tap the link or go to <https://fevo-enterprise.com/group/Sluggersummer2024>



At NPCL we want to provide a positive, loving, and encouraging environment for your children and help them gain a love for reading and learning that lasts a lifetime. Please bring them into the library and we can help them knock this challenge out of the park! Well, that's all until next month! See you at the library!

*Submitted: Mindy Newman, Library Director*

## New Portland Churches

It is still very busy here at Western Mountains Baptist Church. We had a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School. Our theme was SCUBA and the children learned about God's creatures under the sea, as well as developing their relationship with God. A barbecue lunch was served after services for all to enjoy! We also participated in the Annual Kingfield Days celebration. A booth was set up with popcorn and sno-cones as well as a bounce house for the children to enjoy.

There is always something going on at our church. Why don't you stop by and say hello!

Services are streamed every Sunday on YouTube or you can also call the church and have a DVD of our services sent to you (free of charge). Our church is VIBRANT and GROWING!! Come check us out!! [www.westernmountainchurch.org](http://www.westernmountainchurch.org) or call 207 265 2557. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann*



# The New Portlander

Established July 1994

901 River Road  
New Portland, Maine 04961

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
New Portland, ME  
Permit No. 1

POSTAL PATRON  
NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961

NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon
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NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon
24	23	22	21	20	19	18
NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon
17	16	15	14	13	12	11
NPCL Trustees 9:00 am	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon
10	9	8	7	6	5	4
NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 8:00 am - noon
3	2	1				
SATURDAY	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY

**NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR**  
**AUGUST 2024**

DOUG KEHR PHOTO